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STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & ECONOMIC GROWTH
LANSING

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House Bill 5719 (As Passed House)

Topic: Fire Department Badges, Patches, or Uniforms
Sponsor: Representative Caul
Co-sponsors: Representatives Vander Veen, Emmons, Ball, Nitz, Proos, Pavlov, Wenke, Polidori, Hansen, and Stahl
Committee: House Judiciary
Senate Judiciary

The bill amends the Michigan Penal Code by adding a new section to prohibit certain uses of the badge, patch, or uniform, or facsimile thereof, of a fire department, life support agency, or medical first response service by a person not listed in the bill as being authorized to wear or use it.

The bill also adds a new section prohibiting a person from wearing an emblem, insignia, logo, service mark, or other identification of any fire department, life support agency, or emergency response service if the person represents that they are members of the department, agency, or service or the wearing or display occurs in a manner that would lead a reasonable person to falsely believe that the fire department or medical first response service is endorsing a commercial service or charitable endeavor.

Violation of each of the new prohibitions would be considered a misdemeanor under the bill. Maximum punishment is fixed at 93 days imprisonment, a \$500 fine, or both.